

## **ABSTRACT**

Parental involvement and school readiness are crucial in laying the foundation for academic achievement of children in school, and adult success in all aspects of life, including the labour market. This paper presents the findings of a limited research conducted to investigate the relationship between school readiness and parental involvement.

The paper consists of five chapters. Chapter one presents a general introduction and outlines the statement of the problem, giving an overview of education in Jamaica. The second chapter presents a rather fairly extensive review of current literature on school readiness and parental involvement. Chapter three outlines the method used in conducting the research. Chapter four presents the data and gives a brief discussion and analysis of the findings.

The research revealed that many factors affect parents' level of involvement in getting their children ready for primary school. These factors include parents' age, gender, employment status, income levels and the type of pre-school which children attended. The research also revealed that there was a close relationship between parental involvement and school readiness. Children whose parents were directly involved in their early education showed more signs of school readiness than those whose parents were not.

The concluding chapter of this research outlines some recommendations, which if

implemented by parents, schools and the society can enhance school readiness and parental involvement. In the researcher's judgement, preparing children for school must be a collaborative effort involving parents, other family members, the community and the broader society.